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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

WATANABE t al.

Serial No. **Unknown**

National Phase of: **PCT/JP99/05651**

International Filing Date: **14 October 1999**

Atty. Ref.: **330-235**

Group:

Filed: **April 19, 2001**

Examiner:

For: **ORGANIC-INORGANIC COMPOSITE GRADED
MATERIAL, PROCESS FOR THE PRODUCTION
THEREOF AND ITS USE**

* * * * *

April 19, 2001

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Prior to calculation of the filing fee and in order to place the above identified application in better condition for examination, please amend the claims as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please substitute the following amended claims for corresponding claims previously presented. A copy of the amended claims showing current revisions is attached.

3. (Amended) The organic-inorganic composite graded material of claim 1, wherein the metallic compound is a metal-oxide-containing compound.

4. (Amended) The organic-inorganic composite graded material of claim 1, wherein the metallic compound is a metal-nitride-containing compound in which the metallic compound is bonded to the organic polymer compound through a metal-oxide-containing compound.

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